

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-10 are pending in the present application. Claims 11-19 have been canceled.

Drawings

Applicant notes the Examiner's acceptance of the drawing Replacement Sheet filed along with the Amendment dated November 30, 2004.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 11-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Shinohara reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,245,603) in view of the Wada et al. reference (Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-017578) and the Oda et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,945,710). Although Applicant does not necessarily concede that the Examiner has provided the necessary and sufficient motivation to modify the primary reference in view of the secondary references, claims 11-19 have been canceled merely to advance prosecution of this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant respectfully notes the Examiner's acknowledgment that claims 1, 3-6 and 8-10 are allowed.

Conclusion

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the corresponding rejection, and to pass the claims of the present application to issue, for at least the above reasons.

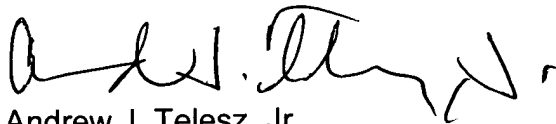
In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, please contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (571) 283-0720 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of one (1) month to March 4, 2006, for the period in which to file a response to the outstanding Office Action. The required fee of \$120.00 should be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment for any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

Respectfully submitted,

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